

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA

Vector Control (Phase II) (SRL/77/013)

Date of present approval:	February 1978
Starting date of project activities:	March 1978
Planned completion date:	February 1981
To be executed by:	World Health Organization (WHO)
Government implementing agency:	Ministry of Health and Ministry of Local Government (Colombo Municipality)
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	\$280 300
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. The health authorities of the Colombo Municipality, recognizing the difficulty of combatting the rampant breeding of vectors and the possibility of arbo-viral diseases spreading into adjacent areas, are collaborating with the National Anti-Filariasis Campaign (Ministry of Health) and UNDP/WHO experts to launch an effective joint programme for the investigation and control of filaria, dengue and dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF) within the Municipal area.

2. In the course of implementing the project, activities are being restricted to the investigation and control of filariasis in the endemic area under the Anti-Filariasis Campaign. Various investigations have shown progressive decrease in the average micro-filaraemia rate from 1963 through 1977. Recent information, however, indicates that in the Colombo Municipal area and its suburbs, the micro-filaraemia rate ranges between 3 and 6 per cent. Considering the field and laboratory methodology used in the Anti-Filariasis Campaign, an even higher micro-filaraemia rate could be expected if more sensitive techniques were used. Therefore, the city of Colombo has developed a higher potential for the spreading of filariasis to its contiguous areas and other parts of the country.

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3. This project, a second phase to the Vector Control project (SRL/72/039) 1/ was formulated to support the Anti-Filariasis Campaign, the investigation of arbo-viral diseases, and further reduction of micro-filaraemia in the endemic belt. It includes training of technical people in the Colombo Municipality. Serological and virological investigations of arbo-viral diseases are being undertaken by the Medical Research Institute of Colombo.

II. Objectives and activities

4. The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) develop strategies for the control of filariasis and arbo-viral diseases in Colombo city and the endemic belt by adopting appropriate and more effective methodologies; (b) conduct situation analyses; (c) strengthen technical personnel in the Medical Research Institute and Colombo Municipality by local field and laboratory training and fellowships abroad; and (d) provide the Institute as well as Colombo Municipality with supplies and equipment to sustain investigative and control measures. The project activities will contribute to developing the health services by reorganization and reactivation of the filaria and vector control programmes in the city of Colombo. Other activities will include the strengthening of the laboratory facilities at the Institute; the introduction of more sensitive techniques; continuous evaluation of control and treatment activities; acquisition of pre- and post-operational data for vector operations; establishment of entomological surveillance and operational strategies to control aedes aegypti; and training of personnel.

III. Inputs

5. UNDP will provide for the services of an epidemiologist and an entomologist for 24 months each, and consultancies (3) for the assessment of the situation analysis, vector control measures, and evaluation of the project activities. Provision has also been made for overseas training, laboratory equipment and vehicles, and miscellaneous expenses.

6. The Government of Sri Lanka will provide personnel, local supplies and equipment directly to the project.

IV. Financial data

7. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

	<u>\$</u>
Personnel	205 900
Training	11 200
Equipment	60 000
Miscellaneous	<u>3 200</u>
	<u>280 300</u>

8. The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of the inputs provided directly by the Government to the project is \$656,500 in kind.